RBI Credit to Central Government

2989. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the net RBI credit to the Central Government has crossed the limit agreed to with the IMF and also that of the budget estimates for 1991-92;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what steps have been taken to reduce Government's expenditure; and

(d) whether capital expenditure is being curtailed in order to compensate for the excess revenue expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) and (b) The increase in net RBI credit to Central Government is estimatd at Rs. 8800 crores in Revised Estimates 1991-92, as compared to Rs. 7719 crores in the Budget. These are estimated figures at the end of the year and correspond to the figures indicated in Finance Minister's Letter of Intent sent to the IMF. During the course of the year the figures fluctuate depending on the daily inflows and outflows.

(c) Government have taken a number of steps to reduce expenditure. Besides curbs on expenses on travel, fuel, telephones, furnishings, seminars, publications, etc. a review of various schemes has also been undertaken so that low priority schemes are phased out. Administered prices are also adjusted wherever necessary.

(d) Capital expenditure in Revised estimate is placed at Rs. 16098 crores against Rs. 16657 crores in BE 1991-92. But this reduction is wholly due to decrease in states' share of small savings on account of fall in collections and change in pattern of Central assistance to the States of Jammu & Kashmir and Assam from 70% loan and 30% grant to 90% grant and 10% loan.

Re-Examination of FERA Violation by Ajitabh Bachchan

2990. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention have been drawn to a newsitem that appeared on the Indian Express, New Delhi dated the 18th December, 1991 under the caption 'Ajitabh's Swiss flat case Shekhar Government bullied into withdrawal;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to re-examinating the case of FERA violation by Shri Ajitabh Bachchan; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The news item has come to Government's notice.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The Foreign Exchange Regulation Appellate Board, an appellate authority set up under Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973, examined the case on merits and held that there was no case for intereference with the order of the Adjudicating authority dropping the proceedings against Shri Ajitabh Bachchan.

Low NRI Capital Investment

2991. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a newsitem appearing in the Economic Times of the 17th February, 1992 captioned "Policy to attract NRI investment gets poor response";

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction to the failure of recently announced schems to attract NRI capital; and

(c) what steps are being considered by Government to augment NRI Investment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c) The News item in the Economic Times dated 17.2.1992 has come to Government's notice. The factual position is that under the recently